

## Message Text

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TAGS: AORG, PORG, UNESCO, TPHY, DA, FI, IC, NO, SW

SUBJECT: SCANDINAVIAN CANDIDATE FOR VICE CHAIRMAN-  
--SHIP OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC  
--COMMISSION (IOC)

1. EMBASSIES ARE REQUESTED TO PRESENT A DEMARCHE TO  
APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
OF HOST GOVERNMENTS, DRAWING ON FOLLOWING FOR SUBSTANCE..  
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A) AT ITS LAST ASSEMBLY IN NOVEMBER 1975, THE INTERGOVERN-  
MENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION (IOC) OF UNESCO ELECTED  
MR. OLE OSTVEDT OF NORWAY AS ITS FOURTH VICE-CHAIRMAN.  
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION ASSIGNED TO MR. OSTVEDT THE  
RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEALING WITH THE COMMISSION'S SCIEN-  
TIFIC RESEARCH PROGRAMS. IN OUR VIEW, MR. OSTVEDT HAS

DONE AN EXCELLENT JOB IN THIS CAPACITY. AS A RESULT, THE UNITED STATES WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT HIM FOR A SECOND TWO-YEAR TERM AS A VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION.

B) WE ASKED MR. OSTVEDT IF HE WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO SERVE FOR A SECOND TERM. HE ADVISED US THAT UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, NORWAY WOULD GIVE UP ITS SEAT ON THE IOC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT THE NEXT ASSEMBLY AND WOULD

SUPPORT ANOTHER SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRY FOR MEMBERSHIP. THUS, SINCE THE COUNTRY OF ANY IOC OFFICER AUTOMATICALLY BECOMES A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, MR. OSTVEDT WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR A SECOND TERM.

C) UNDER THE IOC'S CURRENT STATUTES AND RULES OF PROCEDURE, THE CHAIRMAN AND EACH VICE-CHAIRMAN CAN SERVE FOR ONLY TWO SUCCESSIVE TERMS. AS IT TURNS OUT, THE PRESENT CHAIRMAN AND THREE OF THE FOUR VICE-CHAIRMEN WILL FINISH THEIR SECOND TERMS IN OFFICE AT THE NEXT ASSEMBLY. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ONE OF THE PRESENT VICE-CHAIRMEN COULD BE ELECTED CHAIRMAN, BUT IN ANY EVENT, THE ONLY ONE OF THE PRESENT VICE-CHAIRMEN WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR RE-ELECTION AS A VICE-CHAIRMAN IS MR. OSTVEDT. SINCE MR. OSTVEDT'S DEMONSTRATED COMPETENCE HAS BEEN SO OUTSTANDING, WE WOULD HOPE THAT AN EXCEPTION COULD BE MADE TO THE PRESENT POLICY OF ROTATION AMONG THE SCANDINAVIAN MEMBERS OF THE IOC TO PERMIT MR. OSTVEDT TO STAND FOR RE-ELECTION. THE NEED FOR SUCH AN EXCEPTION IS EVEN MORE COMPELLING, WE BELIEVE, IN VIEW OF THE NEED TO ASSURE A CERTAIN DEGREE

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OF CONTINUITY AMONG KEY IOC OFFICIALS.

D) THEREFORE THE USG REQUESTS (THE HOST GOVERNMENTS) TO CONSIDER SUPPORTING MR. OSTVEDT FOR RE-ELECTION AS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE IOC AT THE TENTH IOC ASSEMBLY IN NOVEMBER 1977. AT LEAST A PRELIMINARY REPLY WOULD BE APPRECIATED BY MARCH 15, SINCE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS OF ELECTIONS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY TAKE PLACE AT THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, 4-8 APRIL.

2. FYI--IOC IS A SEMI-AUTONOMOUS BODY WITHIN UNESCO WITH 91 MEMBER STATES. PURPOSE OF COMMISSION IS TO PROMOTE SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION WITH A VIEW TOWARD LEARNING MORE ABOUT NATURE AND RESOURCES OF THE OCEAN THROUGH THE CONCERTED EFFORTS OF ITS MEMBERS. IOC MAINTAINS CLOSE TIES WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WHICH DEAL WITH VARIOUS ASPECTS OF MARINE ENVIRONMENT.

A. MAIN GOVERNING BODY OF THE IOC IS ASSEMBLY WHICH

MEETS EVERY TWO YEARS. IOC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETS THREE TIMES BETWEEN ASSEMBLIES TO REVIEW ONGOING PROGRAMS AND PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO IOC OFFICERS AND SECRETARIAT. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CONSISTS OF IOC CHAIRMAN, FOUR VICE CHAIRMEN AND REPRESENTATIVES OF 15 OTHER MEMBER STATES ELECTED BY THE ASSEMBLY.

B. IOC RESOLUTION VIII-33 OF ASSEMBLY IDENTIFIED SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES FOR IOC VICE CHAIRMEN. THAT RESOLU-

TION REQUESTS VICE CHAIRMEN, IN THEIR DESIGNATED AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY, TO MAINTAIN COGNIZANCE OF ACTIVITIES OF RELEVANT IOC SUBSIDIARY BODIES; GIVE GENERAL ADVICE TO CHAIRMEN OF THOSE SUBSIDIARY BODIES; ENSURE COORDINATION AMONG THEIR ASSIGNED SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND OTHER IOC SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND IOC SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BODIES; AND TO TAKE ACTION ON RELEVANT MATTERS IF REQUIRED.  
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C. MR. DAVID H. WALLACE, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO IOC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS SENT LETTERS TO THE HOST GOVERNMENTS' REPRESENTATIVES TO THE IOC LISTED BELOW INFORMING THEM OF THIS CABLE AND REQUESTING THEIR SUPPORT. HE IS ALSO INFORMING THE REPRESENTATIVES OF SOME OTHER KEY MEMBER STATES OF IOC AND IS SEEKING THEIR SUPPORT FOR MR. OSTVEDT.

DR. TORBEN WOLFF, ZOOLOGICAL MUSEUM, COPENHAGEN

MR. JON THORMODSSON, EMBASSY OF ICELAND, PARIS

PROFESSOR ERKKI PALOSUO, INSTITUTE OF GEOPHYSICS,  
UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

DR. JARL-OVE STROMBERG, ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES,  
SWEDEN

MR. OLE OSTVEDT, RESEARCH DIRECTOR, DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES, INSTITUTE OF MARINE RESEARCH, IS HEAD OF NORWAY'S DELEGATION TO IOC. HE RECEIVED COPIES OF ALL OTHER LETTERS AS DID MR. KNUT VARTDAL, DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES. VARTDAL WAS ALSO SENT SAME LETTER AS WOLFF, ETC. END FYI.  
VANCE

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